

## RESOLUTIONS

OF THE

### LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN,

IN FAVOR OF

*The passage of a law declaring the (so called) Kansas Code null and void.*

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FEBRUARY 20, 1857.—Read, ordered to lie on the table, and be printed.

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JOINT RESOLUTIONS instructing our senators and representatives in Congress in relation to the affairs of Kansas.

Whereas it appears by the report of the special committee of the House of Representatives of the United States sent to the Territory of Kansas, in the summer of eighteen hundred and fifty-six, under a resolution of the House, that the first legislature of said Territory were, in open violation of the Kansas-Nebraska act, chosen by the votes of bodies of men from Missouri and other slaveholding States, who by fraud and violence succeeded in imposing upon the people of the Territory a body of men claiming to possess legislative authority, but whose acts of pretended legislation are, by reason of such fraud and violence, *void and of no effect*:

And whereas many of said acts are tyrannical and a gross infringement of the constitutional rights of the people of the United States, and, as they have been justly characterized, a disgrace to the civilization of the age: therefore,

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan*, That our senators in Congress be instructed, and our representatives requested, to use their best exertions to procure the passage of an act of Congress, declaring the Kansas code (so called) *null and void*, and particularly those provisions thereof which violate the freedom of speech and the press; which require of all territorial officers, counsellors and attorneys, test oaths in support of slavery; which require of the voter a base and degrading oath to support the fugitive slave law, as a condition of exercising the elective franchise; which disqualify jurors for their opinions against slavery, or which inflict cruel and unusual punishments (such as the wearing of the ball and chain) on persons convicted under said fraudulent and unconstitutional acts.

*Resolved*, That the governor transmit a copy of the above preamble and resolution to each of our senators and representatives in Congress. These joint resolutions shall take immediate effect.

BYRON G. STOUT,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*  
 GEORGE A. COX,  
*President of the Senate.*

Approved February 10, 1857.

KINSLEY S. BINGHAM.

STATE OF MICHIGAN,  
*Secretary of State's office.*

I, John McKinney, secretary of state, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of joint resolutions passed by the legislature of said State, and now on file in this office, and that it is a true copy of the same.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of said State, at Lansing, this eleventh day of  
 [L. S.] February, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven.

JOHN MCKINNEY,  
*Secretary of State.*